ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL

OPERATIONAL SERVICES

BUTE & COWAL AREA COMMITTEE

1st DECEMBER 2009

MILTON BURN FLOOD PREVENTION SCHEME

1. SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to advise the Members of the status of the project.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members note the report.

3. DETAILS

The first section of the scheme was constructed in July 2009. At short notice, access was obtained to the supermarket car park when the store was closed for refurbishment. A contract was let to local firm Storie (Argyll) Limited and they successfully completed the installation of the flood relief pipe in the car park.

Discussions with the utilities companies for the works in John Street have been progressing and it is expected that the existing main sewer will need to be relocated to allow the new surface water pipe to be installed. This is expected to allow the gas pipe to remain in its current position. There will be numerous service pipes to be worked around.

Officers have met with the appropriate Scottish Government official to discuss the implementation of formal flood prevention project. It was made clear at this meeting that even though not all of the flood relief works can be afforded within the present budget, it is acceptable to undertake the works in stages. The next phase will be the installation of the weir and chamber in the supermarket car park together with the completion of the pipeline to the Clyde and the necessary raising/renewal/repairs to the existing burn walls and banks upstream.

The remaining downstream works will be implemented when budget allows, but the Council cannot remove this element from its future works programme under the terms of the Act. Even though there may be no date set for their completion and that most of the flood relief will be provided by the completion of the pipeline works the intention must remain to complete the entire project as approved by the Scottish Government.

The Estates section have been identifying affected owners and will be in discussions with them/their representatives now that detailed construction proposals have been identified. The supermarket and ACHA are the biggest landowners affected. It is expected that the car park will lose up to 15 spaces during

the works and that access to construct the chamber is most likely to be taken from the other side of the burn rather than through the car park itself.

Traffic Management – the lower section of John Street will need to be closed to allow that section of the pipeline to be installed. Diversionary routes will need to be in operation for a few months and chosen after consultation with affected parties.

The detailed design and check for the structures is progressing and will be completed during the period the scheme goes through the formal Advertising procedure as noted above.

4. IMPLICATIONS

4.1	Policy	None
4.2	Financial	All construction costs have a financial risk
4.3	Personnel	Significant officer time is required to develop the project
4.4	Equalities Impact Assessment	Not required
4.5	Legal	The powers to promote the scheme have to be obtained and access to the ground to undertake the full works will require to be secured.

For further information, please contact

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